

HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS



BOOK 9

TEXT: GOSCINNY  
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

# Asterix

## AND THE BIG FIGHT



UDERZO



FIRST, THOSE WHO ACCEPTED THE PAX ROMANA AND WERE TRYING TO ADAPT TO THE POWERFUL CIVILISATION OF THE INVADERS...

WHAT ARE THESE  
PILLARS FOR?

THEY MAKE  
THE HOUSE LOOK  
GALLO-ROMAN



IF YOU ASK ME,  
IT LOOKS MORE  
GALLO-GREEK...



WHAT A  
GALL!

HE'S ALWAYS  
BEEN THAT WAY...  
IT'S VERY  
GALLING!



AND THEN THERE WERE THE OTHER GALLS, INDOUBTAVELY, BRAVE AND TOUGH, WHO LIKED THEIR FOOD AND DRINK, A GOOD FIGHT AND A BIT OF FUN, THE FINEST SPECIMENS BEING FOUND IN A SMALL TRIBE ALREADY KNOWN TO US...

HEY, HERE ARE  
ASTERIX AND OBELIX  
BACK FROM  
HUNTING!



WELL,  
BOYS,  
ANY NEWS?

NO,  
WE GOT A  
BOAR EACH

BUT I HAD DOGMATIX  
TO HELP ME. HE'S A  
GREAT BOARHOUND!!!



OH YES,  
I FORGOT...  
WE MET A  
ROMAN  
PATROL



THESE  
ROMANS ARE  
CRAZY!





MEANWHILE, IN THE  
FORTIFIED ROMAN CAMP  
OF TOTORUM...

THE...THE PATROL'S BACK,  
O CENTURION  
NEBULLUS NITATUS



BY JUPITER!!!  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO YOU?



ER... WE  
MET A COUPLE  
OF GAULS...

AND THEY  
DID HAVE A  
DOG WITH  
THEM...

AND TWO  
BOARDS!

SO THAT  
MADE FIVE!



THESE GAULS  
KEEP ON MAKING  
FOOLS OF US!



WE HAVE TO FIND A  
SOLUTION, O NEBULLUS  
NITATUS... IF THEY GET TO  
HEAR OF THIS IN ROME,  
YOU'LL BE UNDER A  
CLOUD!



WHAT DO YOU  
SUGGEST, O FELONIUS  
CAUCUS, MY RIGHT-  
HAND MAN?

I'VELL...



I'VE BEEN STATIONED IN THIS  
COUNTRY A LONG TIME,  
I KNOW THE GALLISH CUSTOMS,  
AND THERE'S ONE CUSTOM  
THAT MIGHT COME IN VERY  
USEFUL... IT'S CALLED  
THE BIG FIGHT

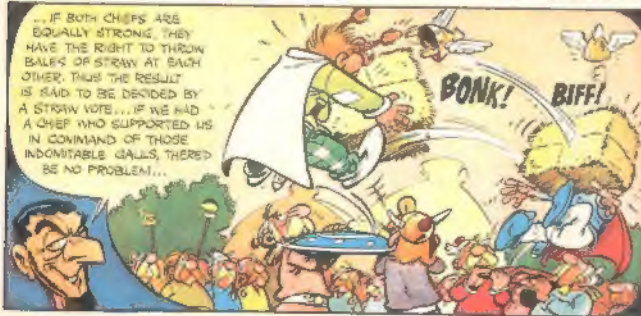


THE BIG  
FIGHT?



YES... WHEN THE CHIEF  
OF A GALLISH TRIBE  
WANTS TO RECOGNIZE  
THE CHIEF OF TWO  
GALLISH TRIBES, HE  
CHALLENGES ANOTHER  
CHIEF TO SINGLE COMBAT. THE  
LOSER AND HIS WHOLE TRIBE  
SURRENDERS TO THE WINNER...

... IF BOTH CHIEFS ARE  
EQUALLY STRONG, THEY  
HAVE THE RIGHT TO THROW  
BALLS OF STRAW AT EACH  
OTHER. THUS THE RESULT  
IS SAID TO BE DETERMINED BY  
A STRAW VOTE... IF WE HAD  
A CHIEF WHO SUPPORTED US  
IN COMMAND OF THOSE  
INDOMITABLE GAULS, THERE'D  
BE NO PROBLEM...



ALL RIGHT, BUT  
WHAT CHIEF WOULD  
BE CRAZY ENOUGH  
TO CHALLENGE THE  
TERRIBLE VITALSTA-  
TISTIX? HIS DRUID'S  
MAGIC POTION  
MAKES HIM  
INVINCIBLE!

I KNOW JUST THE  
MAN. HE'S A  
COLLABORATOR,  
AND AS COLOSSAL  
AS THE COLOSSEUM!

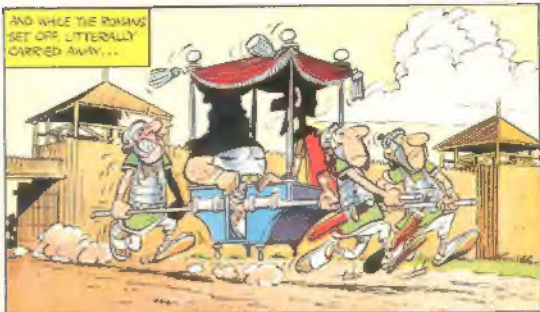




BY MINERVA! LET'S GO  
AND SEE THIS CHIEF OF  
YOURS RIGHT AWAY!

HE LIVES IN  
THE VILLAGE OF  
LINOLEUM, AND  
HIS NAME IS  
CASSIUS CERAMIX

AND WHILE THE ROMANS  
SET OFF, LITERALLY  
CARRIED AWAY...



IN THE VILLAGE OF LINOLEUM...



BY JUPITER AND TOUTATIS!  
I TOLD YOU BEFORE I WANTED  
SHORT BACK AND SIDES  
AND TONGAS! WE'RE  
GALLO-ROMANS!

BUT IT MAKES  
ME FEEL COLD,  
ALL OVER, CHEF!



RIGHT! FOR  
A START, WE'RE  
GOING TO  
BUILD AN  
AQUEDUCT!

AN  
AQUEDUCT?



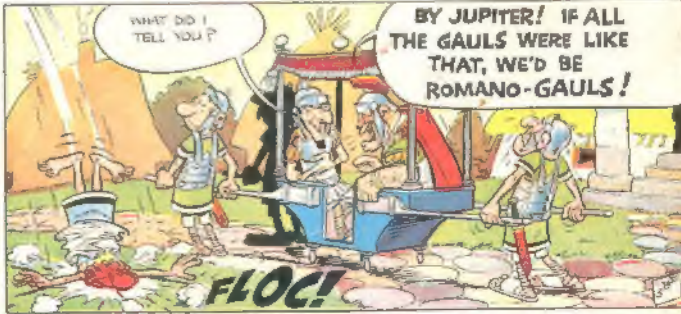
BUT, CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX, WE  
DON'T NEED AN AQUEDUCT...  
THE RIVER FLOWS  
RIGHT THROUGH OUR  
VILLAGE AND OUR  
FIELDS...

THEN WE'LL DIVERT THE COURSE  
OF THE RIVER! AQUEDUCTS ARE  
MORE ROMAN!



AND THAT'S  
ABOUT ENOUGH  
ARGUING!

PAF!



WHAT DID I  
TELL YOU?

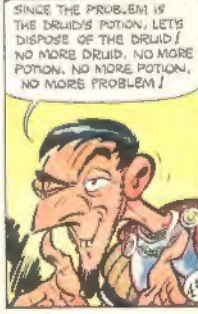
BY JUPITER! IF ALL  
THE GAULS WERE LIKE  
THAT, WE'D BE  
ROMANO-GAULS!

FLOC!

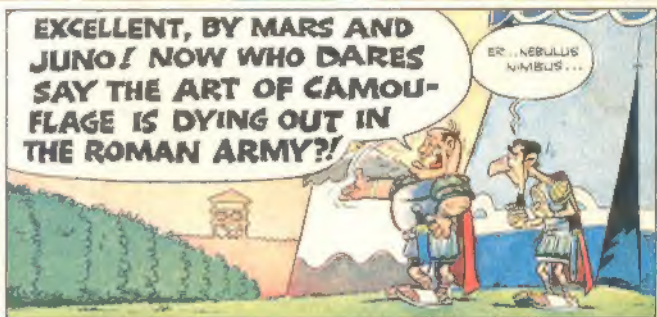
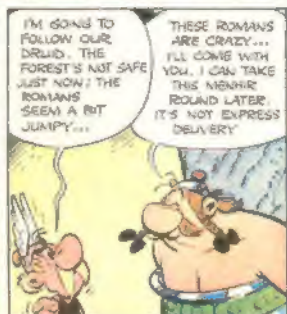
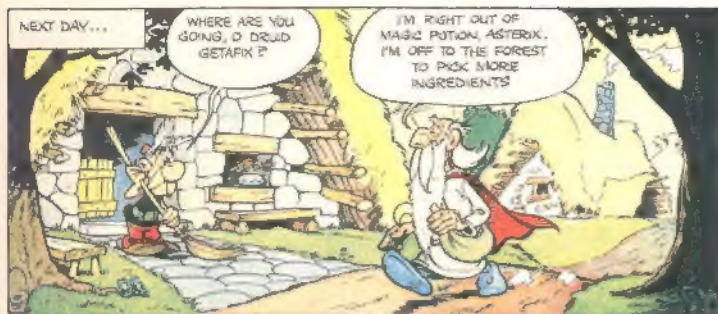




**AVE CAESAR! WELCOME  
TO OUR BELOVED  
INVADERS!**









HMM. RIGHT!  
WHO'S IN COMMAND  
OF THIS DETACHMENT?

THIS IS  
OUR  
BUDDING  
COMMANDER



RIGHT!  
GIVE HIM HIS  
ORDERS!



CAPTURE THE DRUID, DEAD OR ALIVE!  
PATROL THE FOREST UNTIL YOU  
FIND HIM. HE OFTEN GOES TO LOOK FOR  
HERBS THERE. IF YOU SUCCEED  
YOU GET A BONUS. IF NOT YOU'LL  
FIND YOURSELVES IN JUG

ER...CENTURION...IF  
WE GET A CHOICE, I'D  
AS SOON FIND MYSELF IN  
JUG STRAIGHT AWAY...



YOU 'ORRIBLE MAN!  
RUN LIKE A HARE, AND  
YOU'D BETTER COME BACK  
VICTORIOUS, BY MARS!



THAT  
DIDN'T  
WORK!

NO, THE  
HARE DIDN'T  
GET JUGGED



TRY TO LOOK  
AS BOTANICAL  
AS POSSIBLE...

THE BIG SAP...WE'RE  
TOO BIG TO PLAY  
COUSE AND ROBBERS!

IF YOU ASK  
ME, WE'RE  
ALL SUCKERS!

I'M TREMBLING  
LIKE A  
LEAF!

WE'RE NOT  
OUT OF THE  
WOOD YET!

I'D AS LEP  
NOT BE  
HERE EITHER.  
OLD BEAN!

STOP MAKING  
HORRIBLE JOKES  
...WE'VE GOT  
ENOUGH WORRIES  
ALREADY!



A LITTLE  
LATER...



WHERE ARE  
THEY? WHERE  
ARE THEY?

WELL, YOU SAID...  
SO WE DECIDED TO  
PLANT OURSELVES  
HERE AND...

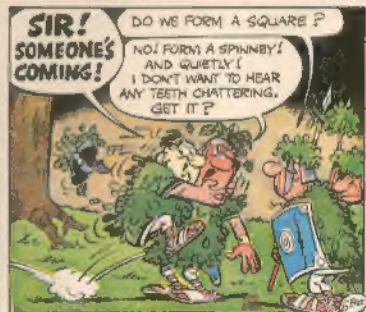
ONE MORE  
TRICK LIKE THAT, YOU  
WEEDS, AND YOU'LL  
BE TURFED OUT  
OF THE ARMY!



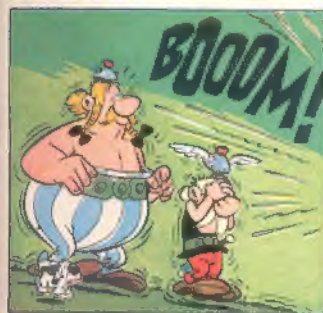
SIR!  
SOMEONE'S  
COMING!

DO WE FORM A SQUARE?

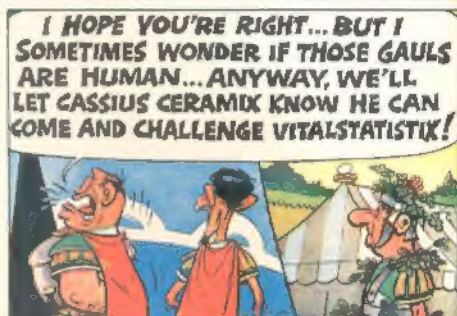
NO! FORM A SPINNY!  
AND QUIETLY!  
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR  
ANY TEETH CHATTERING.  
GET IT?







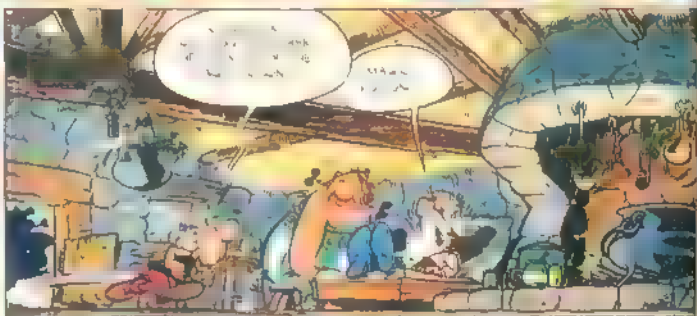
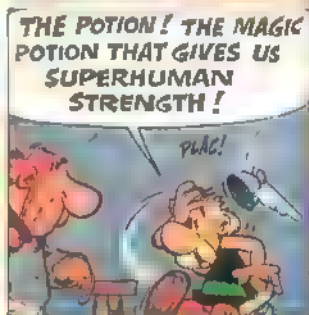
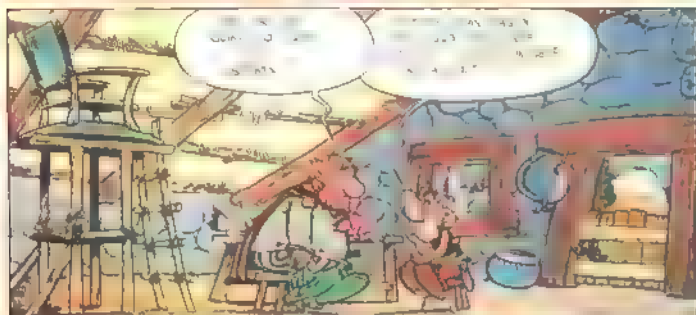




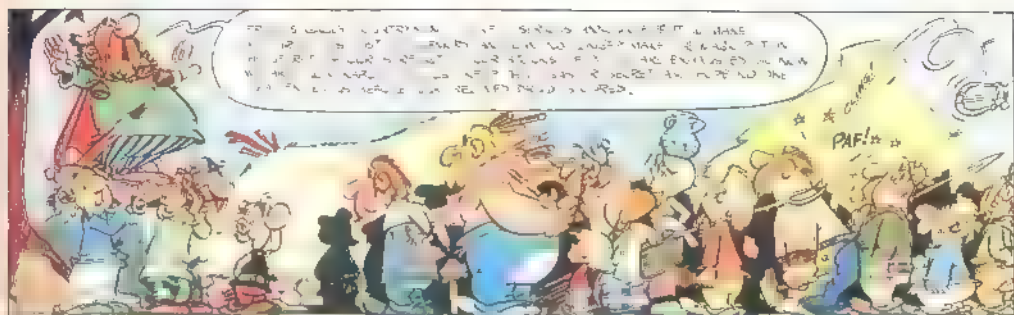


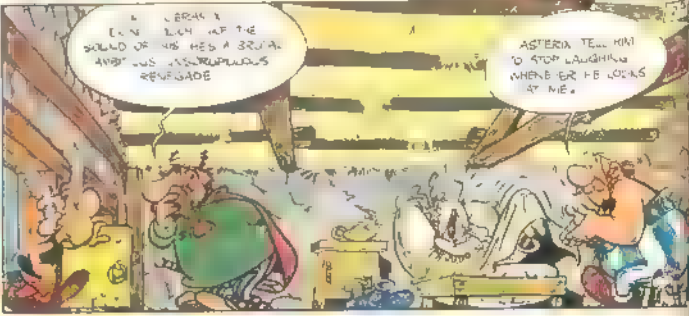
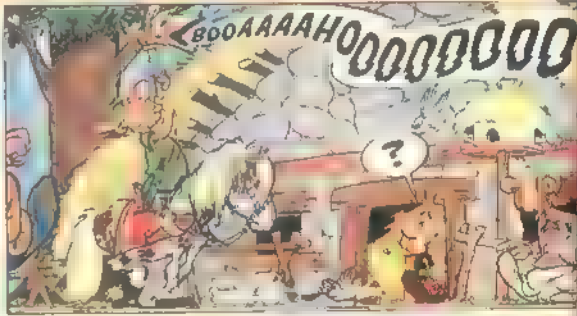
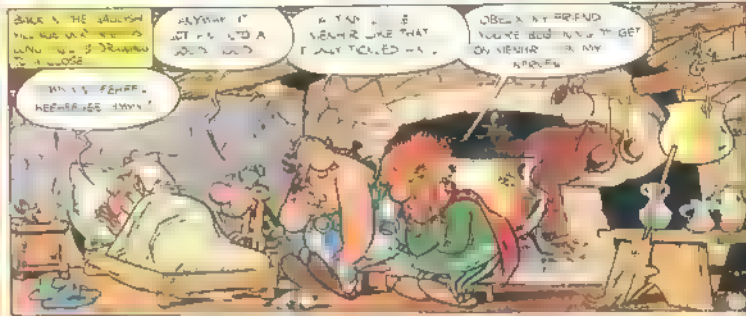
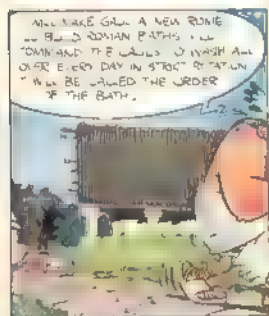




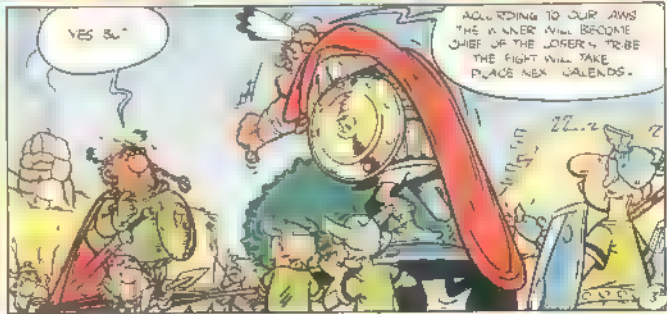
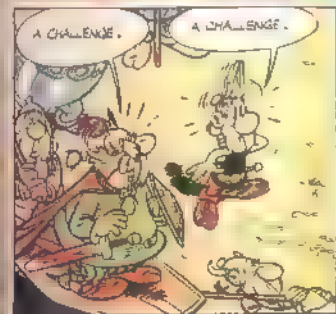
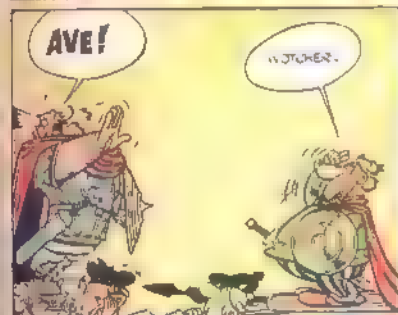
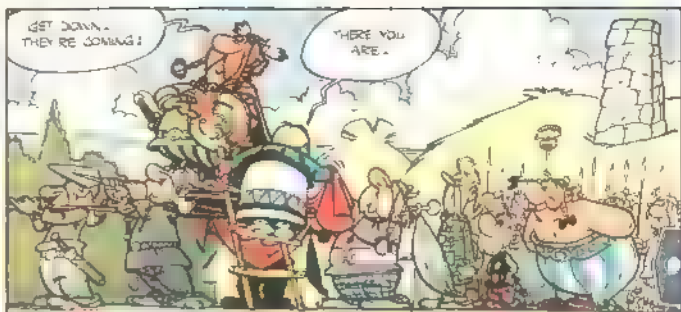
















IN THE FORTIFIED CAMP OF TOTORUM

YOU TOLD ME GETAFIX THE DRUID HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF! NOT ONLY HAS HE NOT BEEN DISPOSED OF, HE'S IN A VERY GOOD MOOD! HE CAN'T STOP LAUGHING!

A wide shot of a fortified camp with a high, reddish-brown wall and several square towers. The camp is surrounded by a dry, hilly landscape under a blue sky with some clouds.

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ADVICE, FELONIUS CAUCUS! SO NOW I LOOK LIKE HAVING TWO REBEL VILLAGES ON MY HANDS INSTEAD OF ONE! OH, WON'T CAESAR BE PLEASED!

ON QUITE EASILY DONE!

QUOD ERAT?  
-EXAMINANDUM A

LE - SET EVERY ONE  
READING TERMINATING HIS  
READING AND JOIN ME NOW  
- UH - UH A - NO  
- EY - THE INDEPENDENTS  
FROM SETA - S HU -  
AND A -  
LAU DRUM

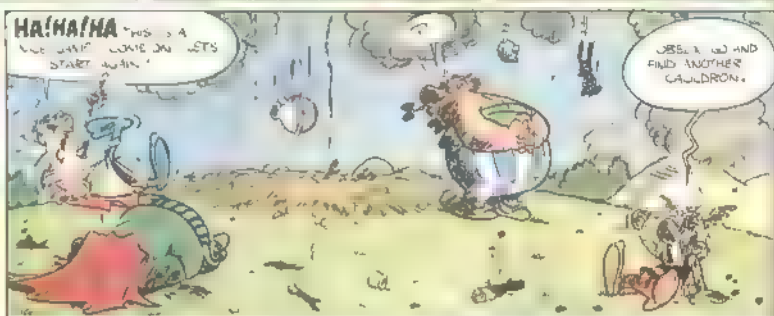
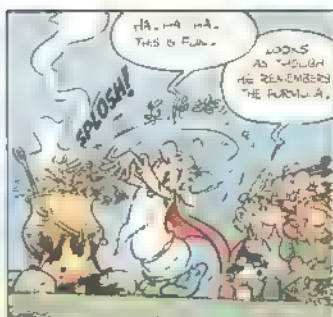
**WOOAHAAHAAA!**  
THAT'S AN EYE  
NO EYES

LOOKIN' A NEW TON, BIL  
TAT U D' MOUT AN' WE  
DUN' U. U ARE DUB  
WEEBLES AN' U

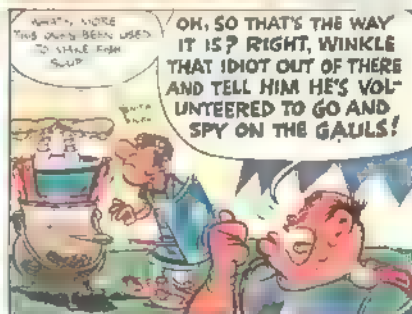
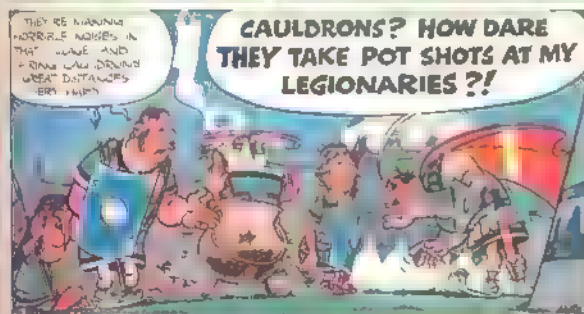
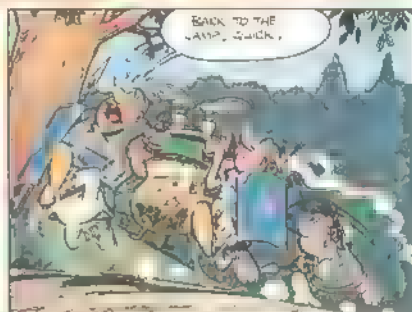
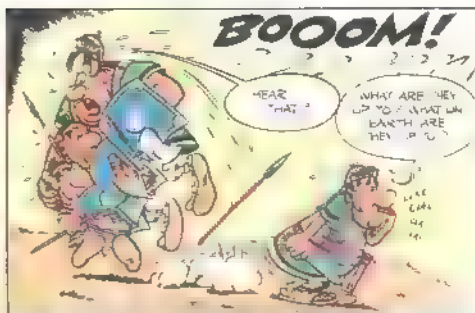
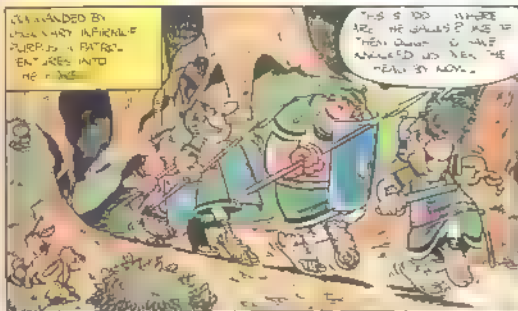
YOU'RE ALREADY  
GONE THAT'S IN A  
HEALTH LABEL

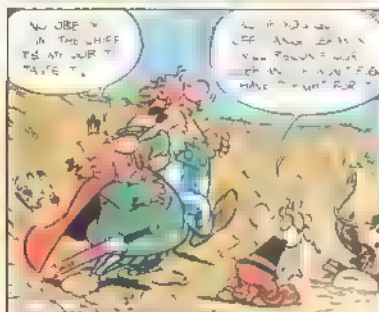
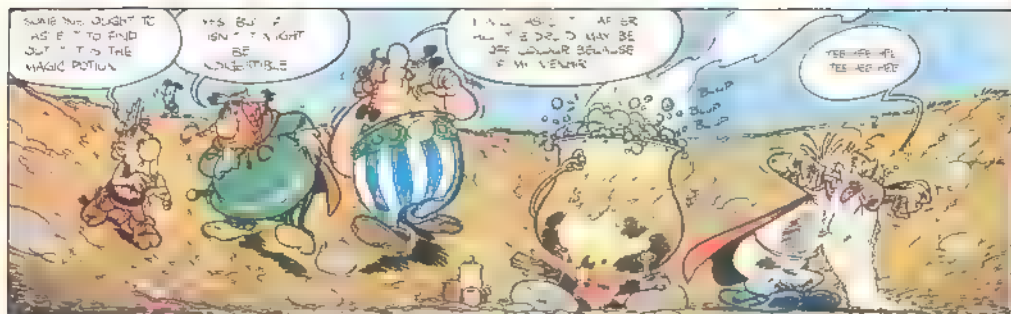
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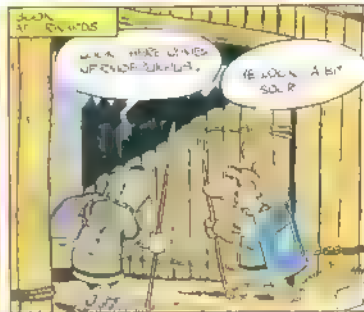
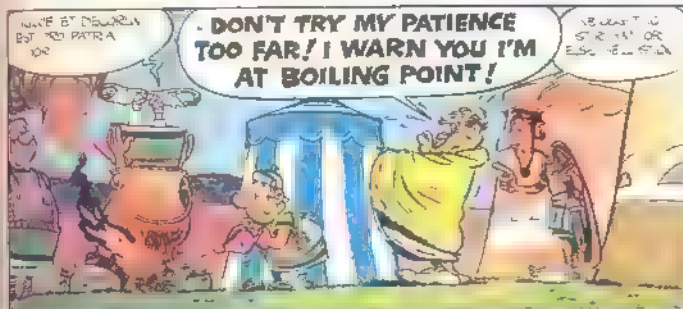


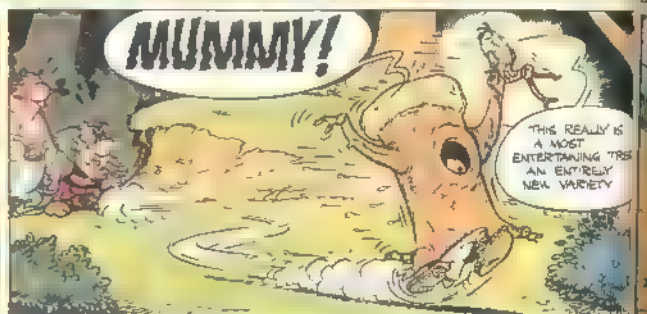
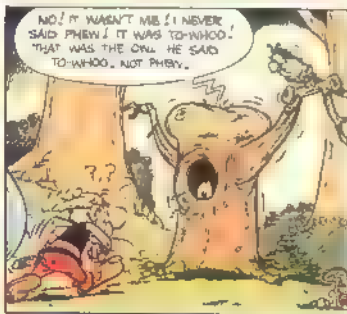
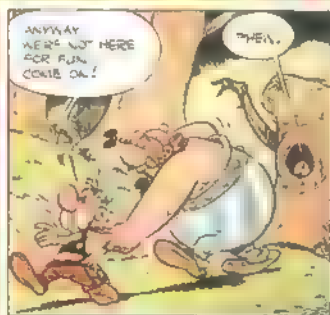
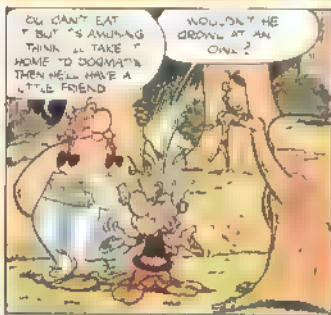
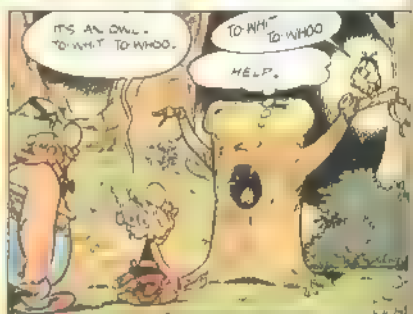
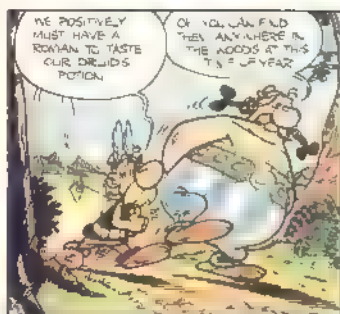




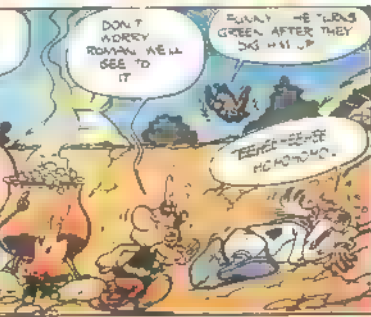
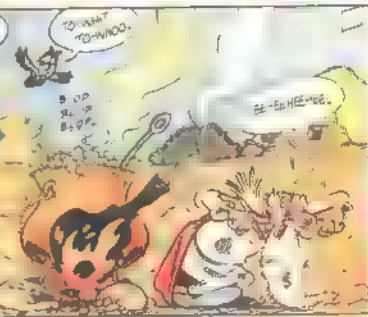
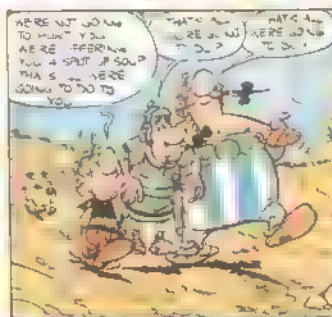
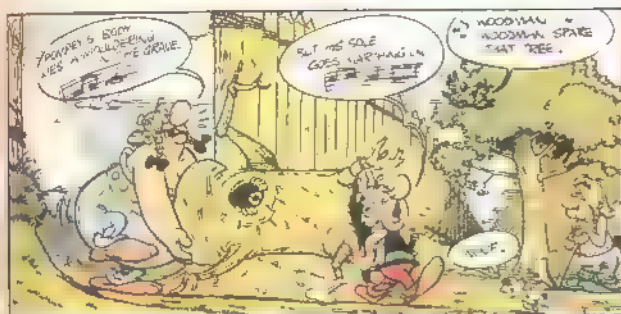


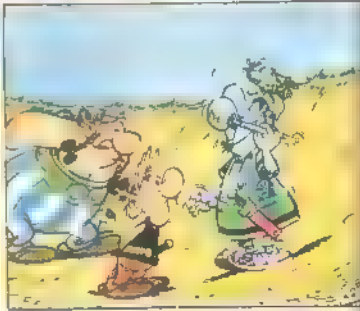
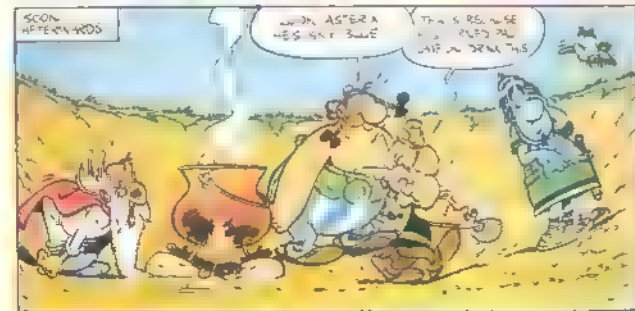
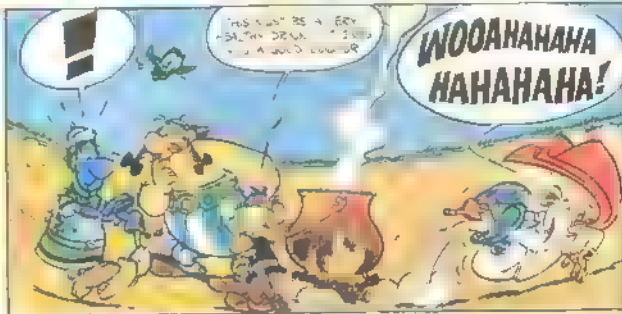
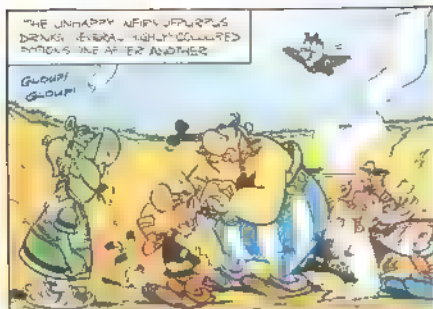




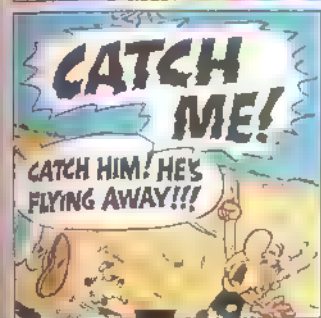
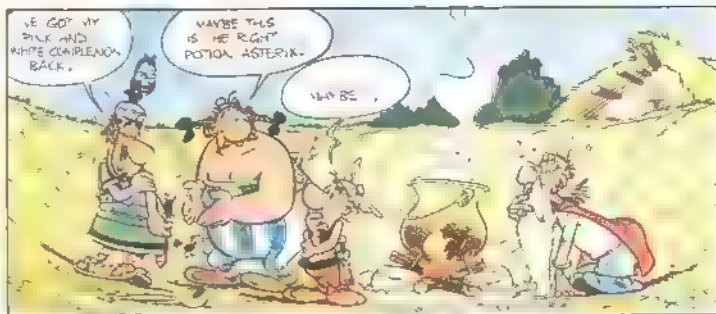
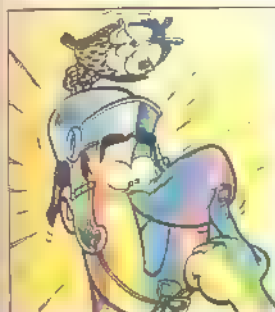


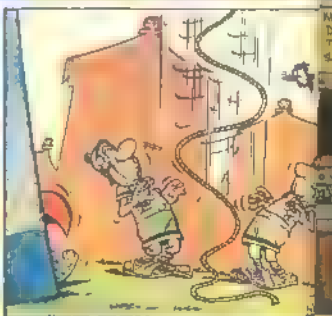
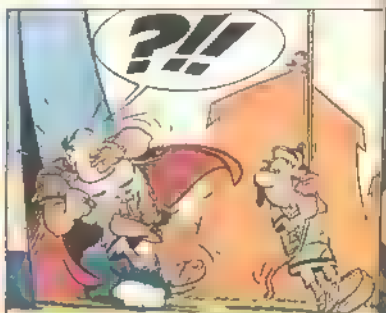
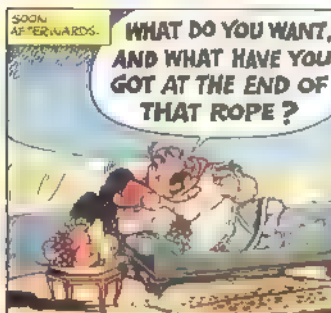
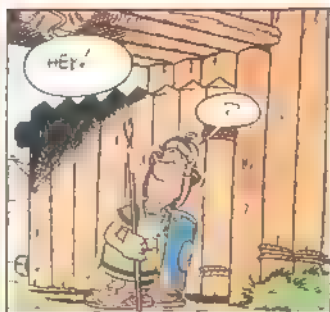
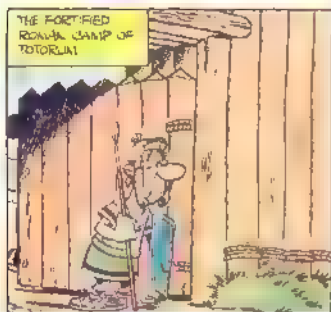














ALL IS WELL. THAT NERFHER  
OBSOLETELY MADE SOME  
IMPACT ON THE DRUID. HE  
HAS LOST HIS POWERS  
FOR A LONG HAIR  
POTION.

LET'S GET AT THE  
GAULS! THERE ARE  
A LOT MORE OF  
US THAN THEM!

IT'S NECESSARY TO  
RISK EVERY-  
LET  
JASSIN. ERMA  
DU HE BETT WARA  
FOR US. HE  
TALK AWAY IF HE  
DOES

GNNNEE  
HEEHEE!

HOHA  
HAHA!

HEY WHAT  
ABOL? ME?

HE PLES AT NIGHT  
VUS INSIDE HE'S THE  
MOSSE TREE (EVERY  
LIGHTED UPON)

WHAT'S UP  
WITH YOU?

WARR'S "20" A-4 OF NEP  
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET  
ME DOWN

DON'T WORRY! THE EFFECTS OF  
THESE GAULISH POTIONS ARE ONLY  
TEMPORARY! IT WILL SOON WEAR  
OFF. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT!

SURE ENOUGH  
A THE MIDDLE OF  
THE NIGHT...

BAOOM!

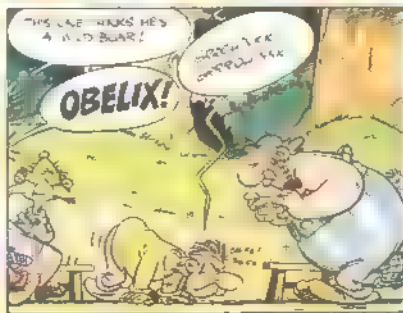
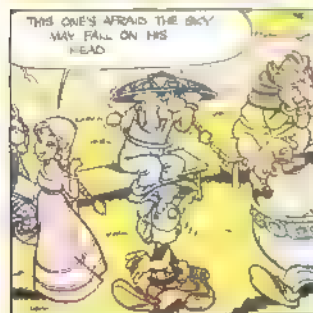
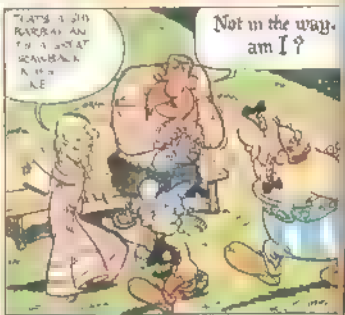
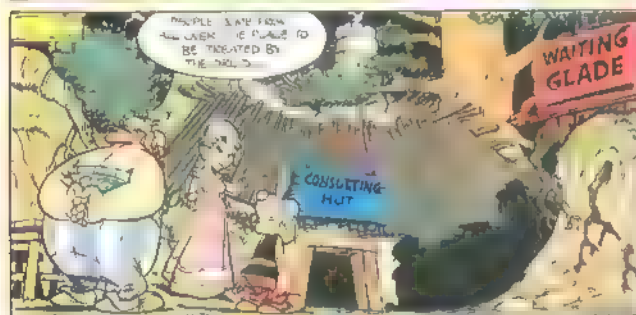
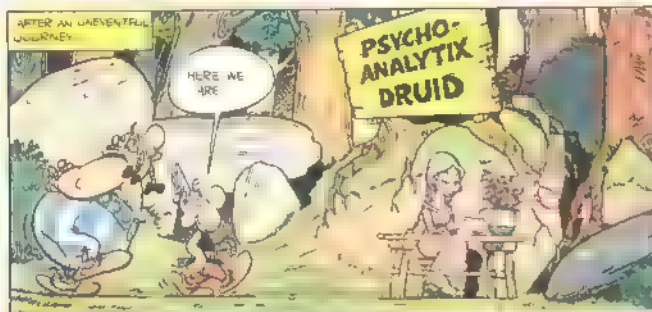
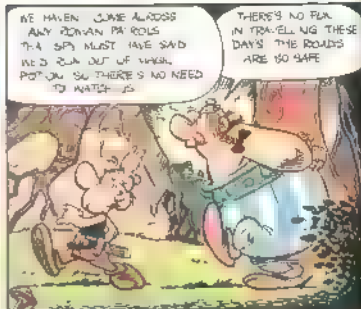
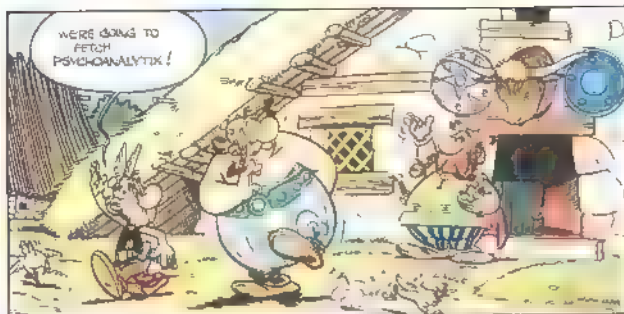
HM THE  
POTION'S WORKING  
OFF

WHILE THE ROMANS ARE  
ASLEEP THE WORLD  
THE GAULS PASS A  
SLEEPY NIGHT

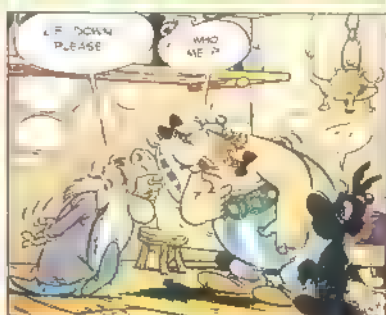
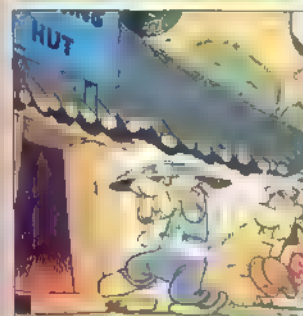
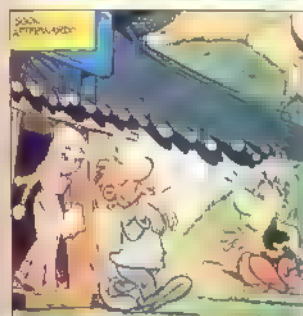
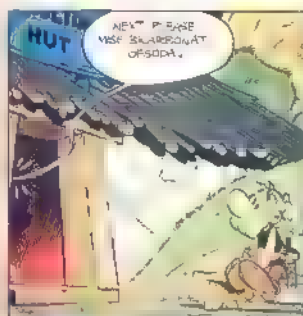
WE NEED  
AND HER DRUID  
TO CURE OUR  
DRUID.

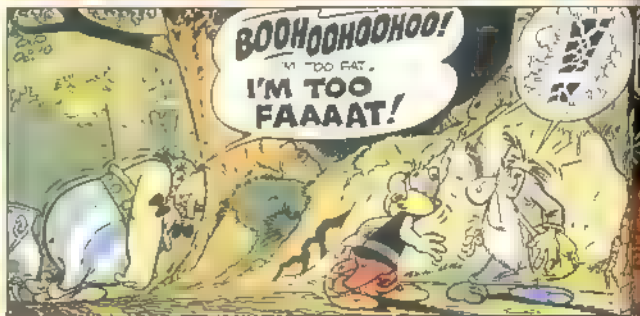
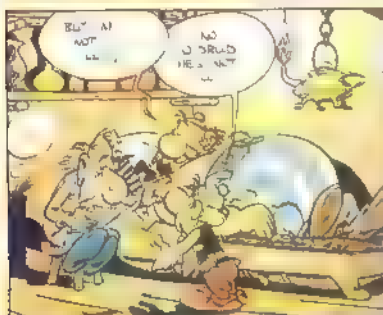
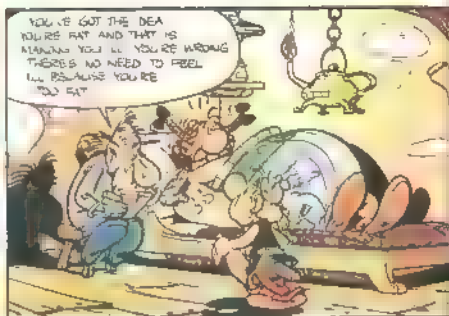
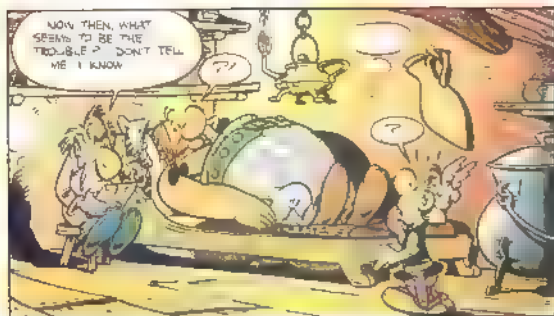
WHAT A GOOD  
IDEA BY  
"DUTATIS".

KNOW A DRUID LIVING  
-BAR HERE HIS SPECIALTY  
S- WARR THE MEN ALL  
DISTURBED  
HE'S CALLED  
PSYCHANALYTIX

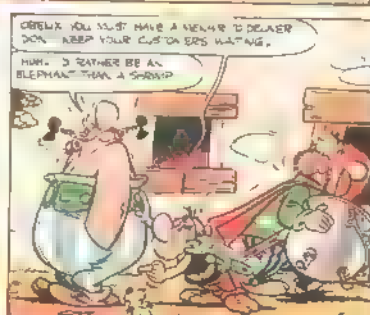
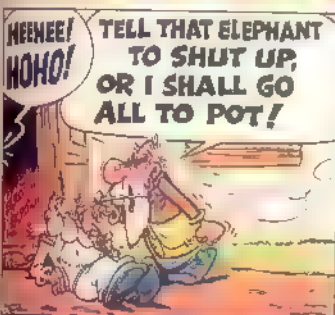
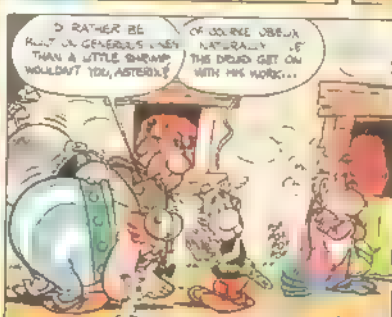
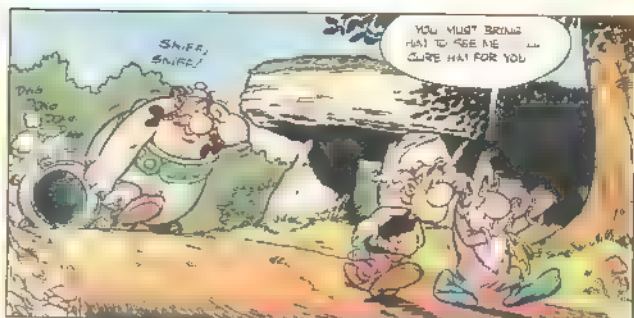


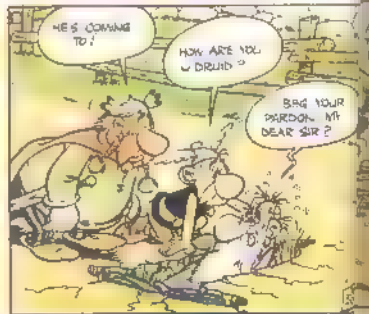
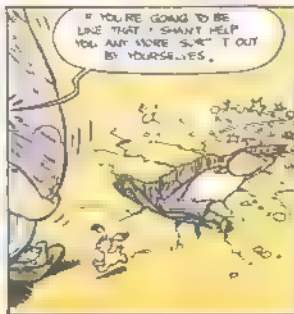
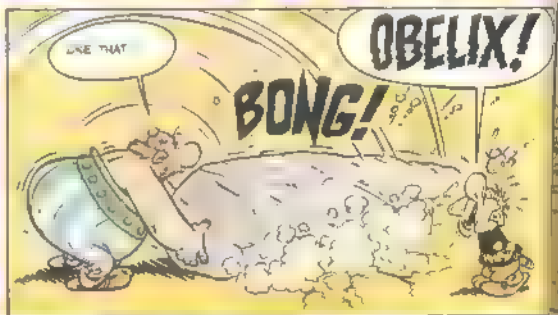
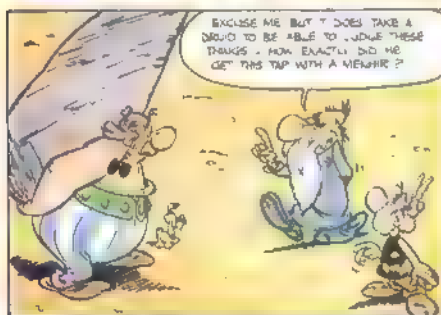
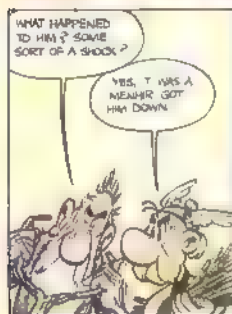
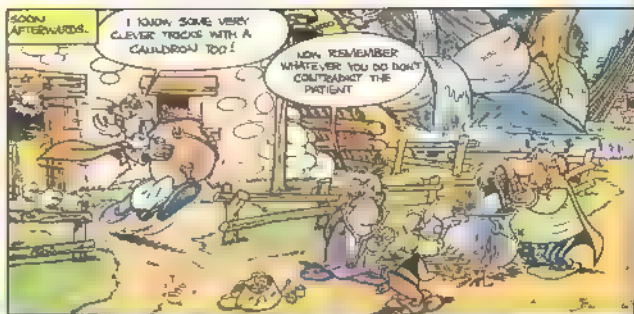
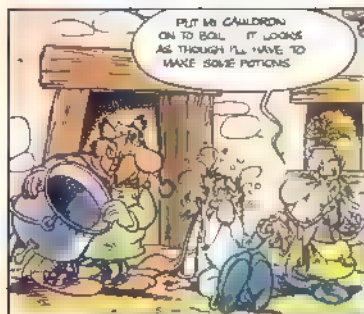




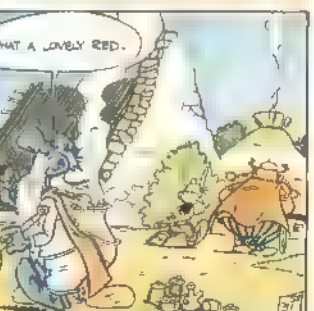
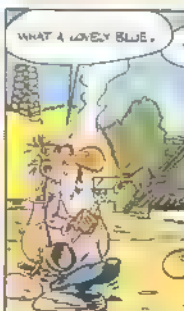
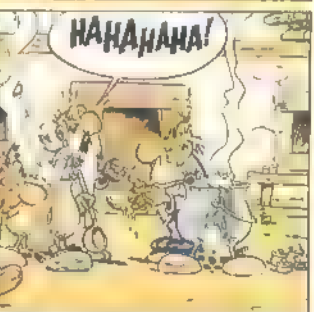
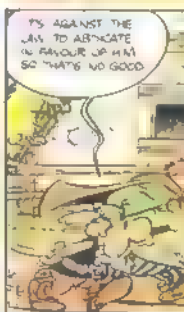
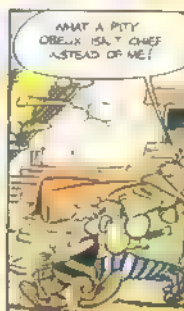
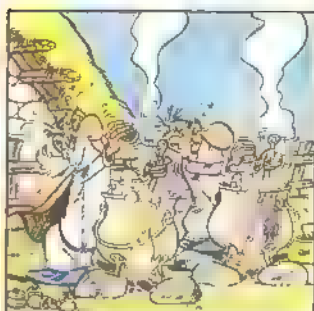
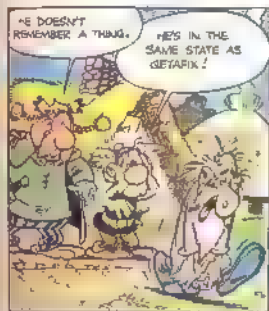


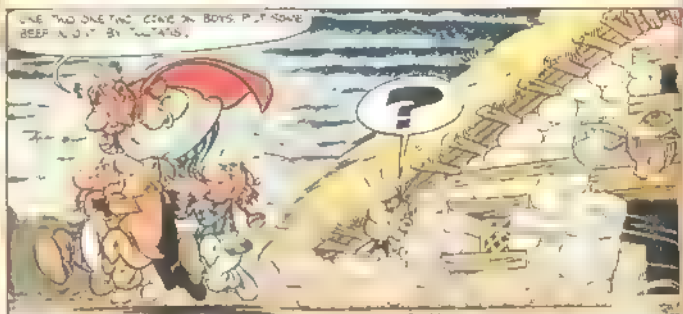
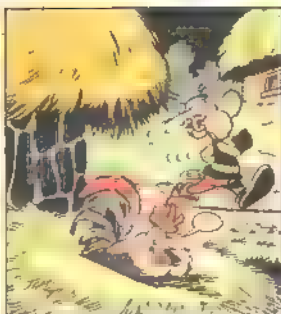
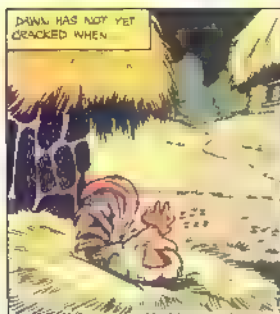




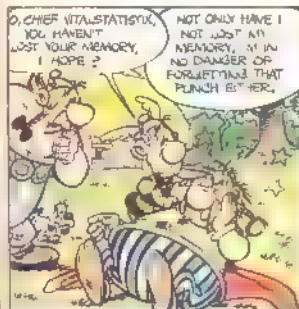




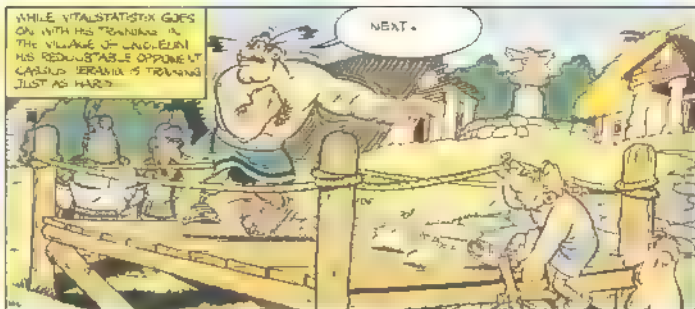




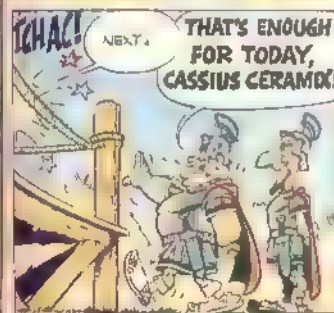
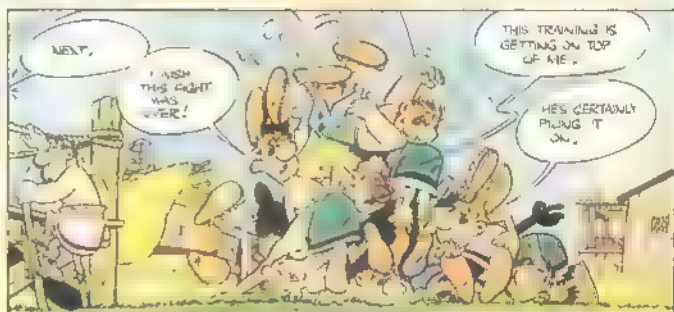




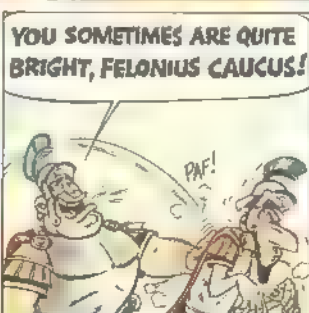
NOT ONLY HAVE I NOT LOST MY MEMORY, BUT IN NO DANGER OF FORGETTING THAT PUNCH EITHER.



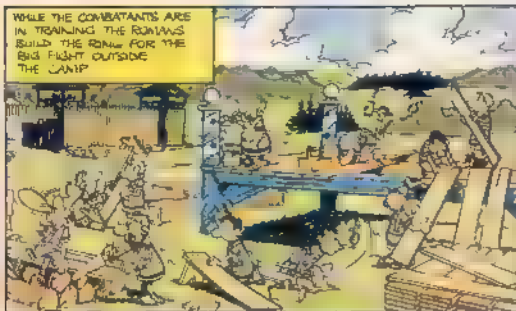
WHILE VITALSTATISTIX GOES ON WITH HIS TRAINING IN THE VILLAGE OF WANDER, HIS REDUCIBLE OPPONENT CASSIUS CERAMIX IS TALKING JUST AS HARD.



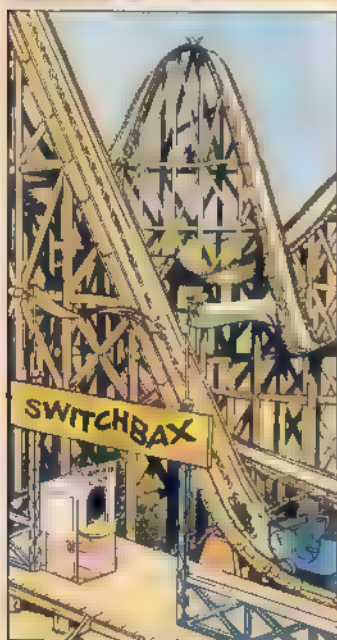
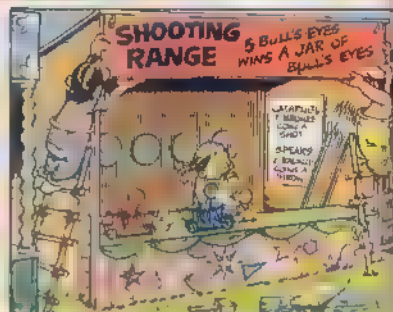
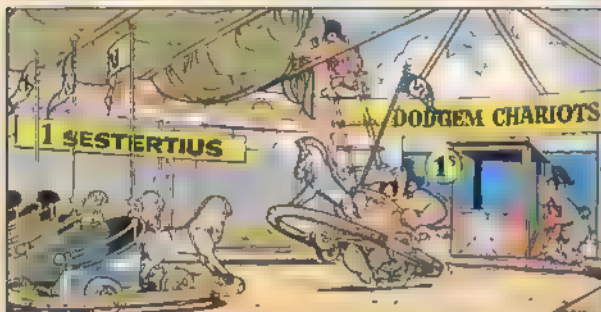
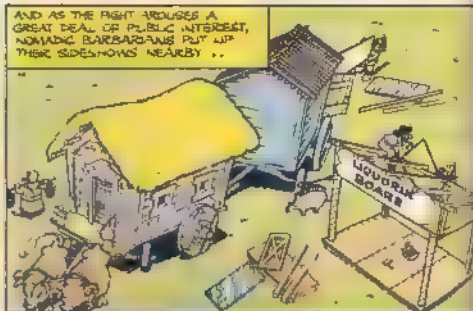
(SO TO VOCE) WE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS AS BE WAY IN A TALE TEND MAY ON A LITTLE TOP TO PLANE IN CHAINING NEW ROAD OTHER CHAIRING MEETERS IN THE CIRCUS ARENA.



WHILE THE CONTESTANTS ARE IN TRAINING THE ROMANS BUILD THE RING FOR THE BIG FIGHT OUTSIDE THE CAMP.



AND AS THE FIGHT AROUSES A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLIC INTEREST, NOMADIC BARBARIANS PUT UP THEIR SIDESHOWS NEARBY...



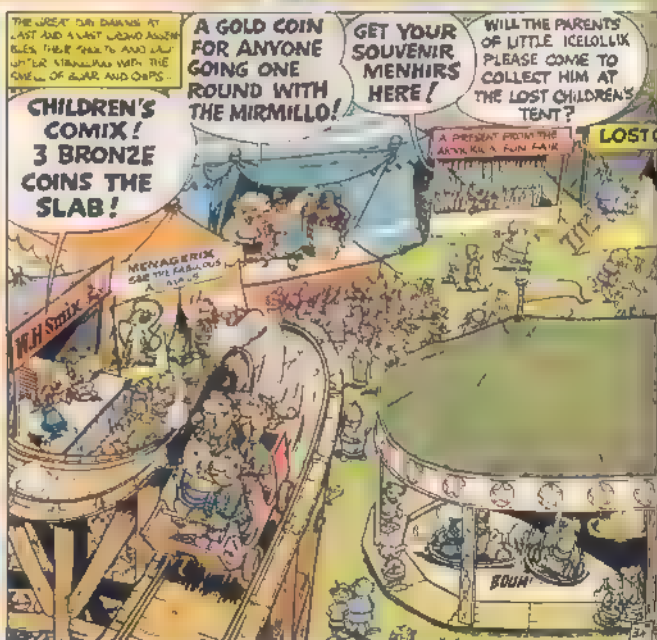
THE GREAT CAR DRIVING AT LAST AND A LAST LUNCH AGONY BLES THEIR FORTS AND LAW UNDER VINDICATION WITH THE KNEE OF BULL AND ORPS.

**CHILDREN'S COMIX!  
3 BRONZE COINS THE SLAB!**

**A GOLD COIN FOR ANYONE GOING ONE ROUND WITH THE MIRMILLO!**

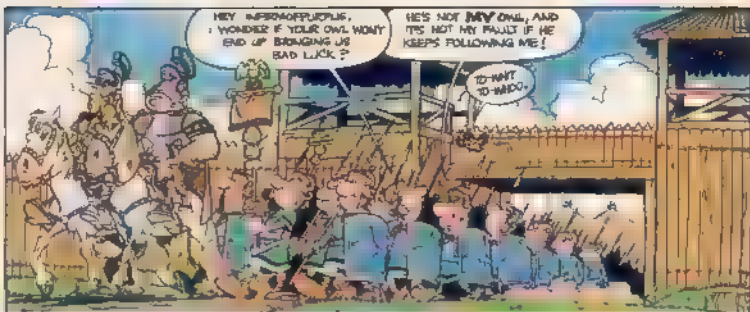
**GET YOUR SOUVENIR MENHIRS HERE!**

**WILL THE PARENTS OF LITTLE ICELOLLIX PLEASE COME TO COLLECT HIM AT THE LOST CHILDREN'S TENT?**

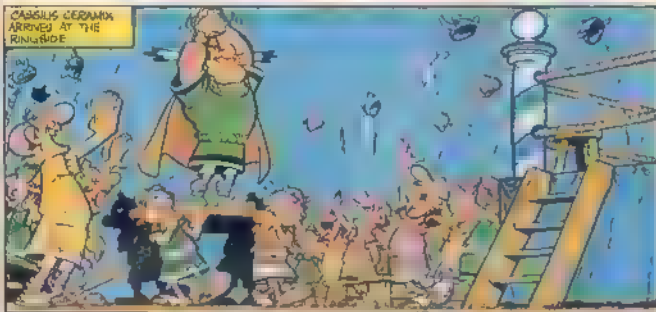




**GARRISON...SHOULDER  
...ARMS! TO THE  
RINGSIDE...FORWARD  
...MARCH!**



CASSIUS CERMUX  
ARRIVED AT THE  
RINGSIDE



MEANWHILE...

O VITALSTATISTIK,  
IT'S TIME  
TO GO!

HEAVE AWAY  
BOYS!



FRIENDS... PROMISE  
TO DO MY UTMOST  
TO WIN,  
BY TOUTATIS!

**LONG LIVE  
THE CHIEF!**



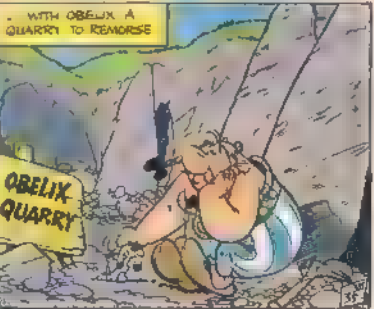
OUR FRIENDLY VILLAGE IS  
ALMOST DEPLETED ONLY  
THE TWO DRUIDS ARE LEFT

JUST TASTE THAT MY  
DEAR SIR, THAN YOU'LL  
BE AMUSED BY MY  
PRESUMPTION!

I'VE NINED-A LITTLE  
SOMETHING MYSELF  
MARCH, I THINK WILL  
SURPRISE YOU



WITH OBELIX A  
QUARRY TO REMORSE



LONG LIVE VITALSTATISTIX!  
BRAVO! VITALSTATISTIX,  
BY BELENOS!

CASSIUS CERAMIX FOR  
EVER! CASSIUS CERAMIX,  
BY JUPITER!

THIS FIGHT WILL GO ON  
UNTIL ONE OF THEM  
THROWS IN THE TOWEL!  
THE STAKES ARE AS  
FOLLOWS: THE WINNER  
RECEIVES THE HOMAGE  
OF VITAL... OF THE  
LOSER AND HIS TRIBE!

ON MY RIGHT, THE  
GALLO-ROMAN CHIEF  
CASSIUS CERAMIX!

THE  
GREATEST!

ON MY LEFT, THE GAULISH CHIEF  
VITALSTATISTIX!

INDOMITABLEST!

THIS IS AN ALL IN CONTEST  
TO YOUR CORNERS AND WHEN  
YOU HEAR THE BUCINA,  
COME OUT FIGHTING!  
AND MAY CASSIUS CER... MAY  
THE BEST MAN WIN!  
**ALEA JACTA EST!**

WHERE'S OBELA?

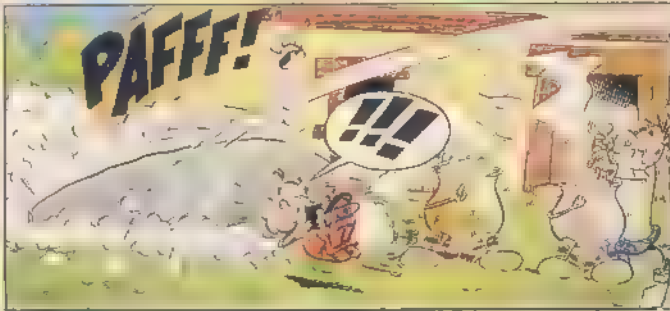
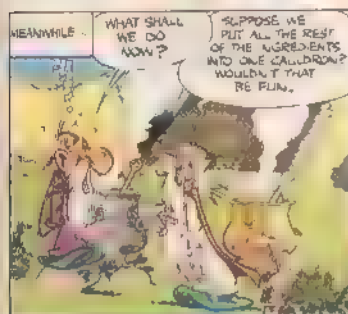
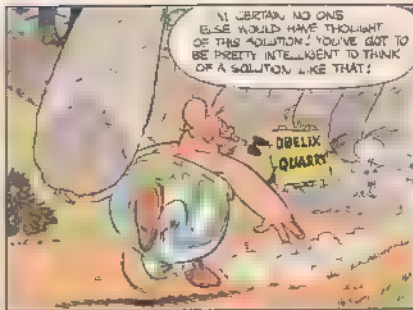
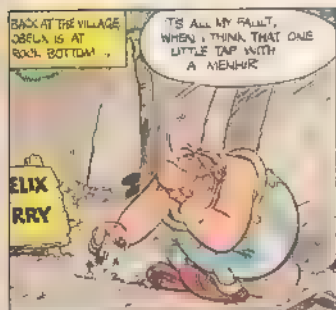
AT HOME. HE'S  
BAD BECAUSE HE  
THINKS ALL THIS IS  
HIS FAULT.

GO AND GET HIM!  
WE'LL NEED HIM IF THINGS  
TURN WASTY AFTER  
THE FIGHT.

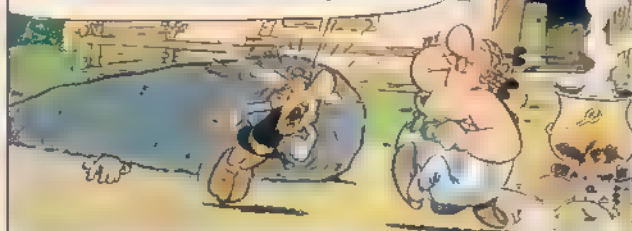
AND SO THE  
BIG FIGHT  
BEGINS!

**PAAA  
!PRA**



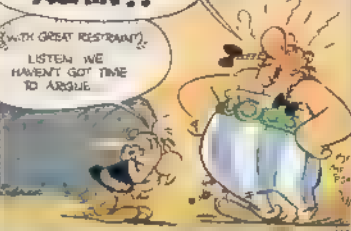


**OBELIX!... DID YOU THROW THIS MENHIR?**



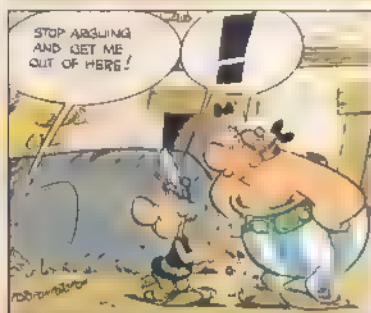
OF COURSE, TO CURE OUR DRUID.

**YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ME I'VE DONE THE WRONG THING AGAIN?!**

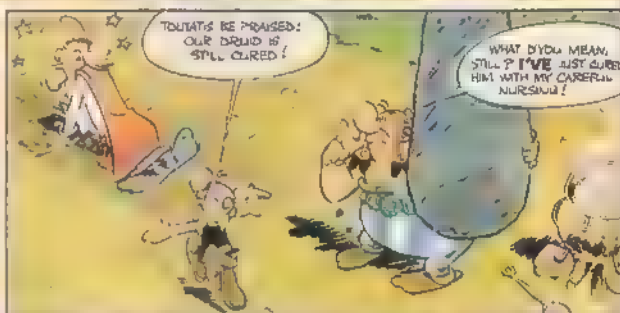


WITH GREAT RESTRAINT? LISTEN, WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO ARGUE.

STOP ARGUING AND GET ME OUT OF HERE!



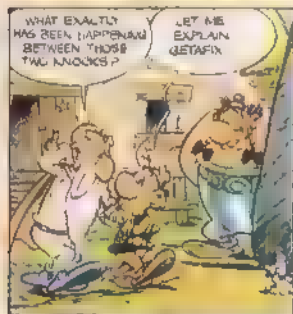
TOU'ÊTES ÊTE PRISÉES! OUR DRUID IS SPILL CURED!



WHAT DID YOU MEAN, STILL? I'VE JUST CURED HIM WITH MY CAREFUL NURSING!

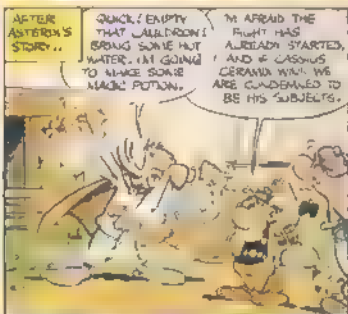
WHAT EXACTLY HAS BEEN HAPPENING BETWEEN THOSE TWO KNOCKS?

LET ME EXPLAIN GETAFIX

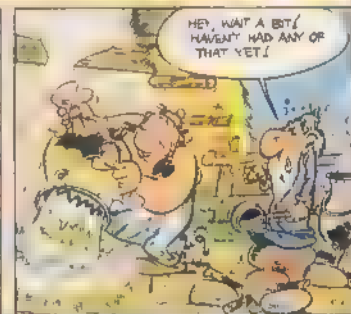


AFTER ASTERIX'S STORY...

QUICK! EMPTY THAT WARDROBE! BRING SOME HOT WATER. I'M GOING TO MAKE SOME MAGIC POTION.

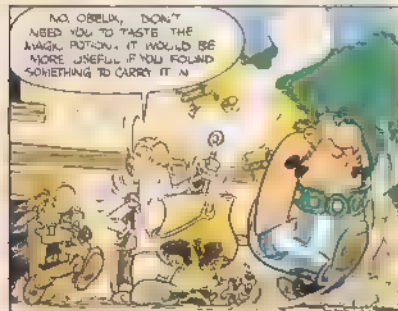


I'M AFRAID THE FIGHT HAS ALREADY STARTED, AND IF CASSIUS CERAMUS WOULD WE ARE GUARANTEED TO BE HIS SUBJECTS.

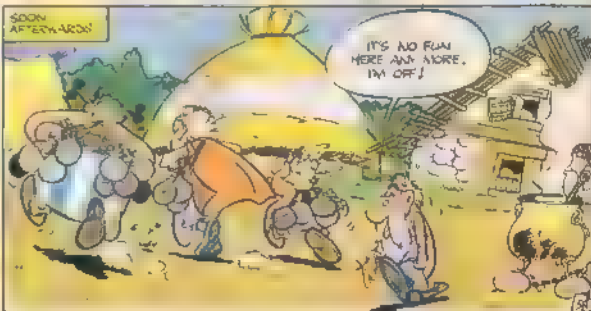


HEY, WAIT A BIT! HAVEN'T HAD ANY OF THAT YET!

NO, OBELIX, DON'T NEED YOU TO TASTE THE MAGIC POTION. IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL IF YOU FOUND SOMETHING TO CARRY IT IN



SOON AFTERWARDS!



IT'S NO FUN HERE ANY MORE. I'M OFF!



OUR THREE FRIENDS ARE NEARING  
THE SPOT WHERE THE BIG FIGHT...

WHY ARE YOU BRINGING THAT  
MENDER CREDITS? DON'T  
LIKE TO SEE YOU WITH ONE  
OF THOSE THINGS ANY  
MORE?

IT MIGHT COME IN  
HANDY A SURETH, YOU  
NEVER KNOW!

...HAS BEEN GOING ON  
FOR HALF AN HOUR...

**WILL-YOU-STOP.  
RUNNING!!!**

YOU SHARE  
OUT THE  
POTION WHILE  
I GO AND  
TELL THE  
CHIEF

PERHAPS  
COULD

NO! YOU FELL  
IN IT WHEN YOU  
WERE A BABY.

CHIEF  
VITAL-STATISTIX!

YES? WHAT  
IS IT?

SEYARA IS  
CURED - WE'RE  
FIGHTING FIT  
NOW

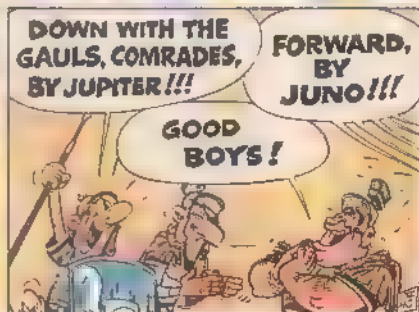
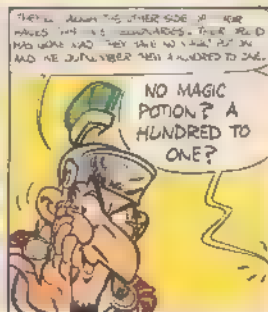
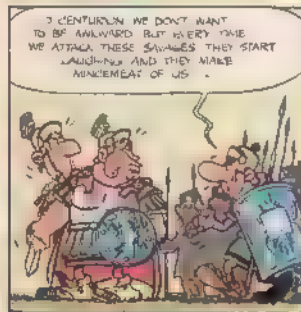
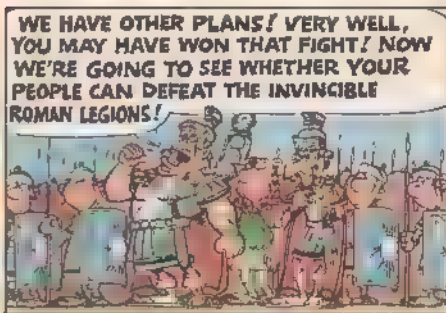
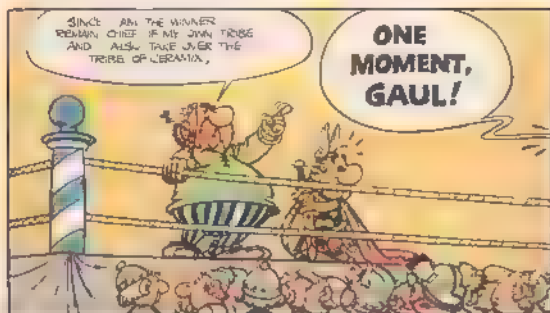
**AHA!** THAT BIT OF NEWS  
REDOUBLES MY  
STRENGTH

**AH! PUFF, PUFF. AT LAST... PUFF, PUFF.  
...YOU'VE STOPPED RUNNING!**

**TCHAC!**

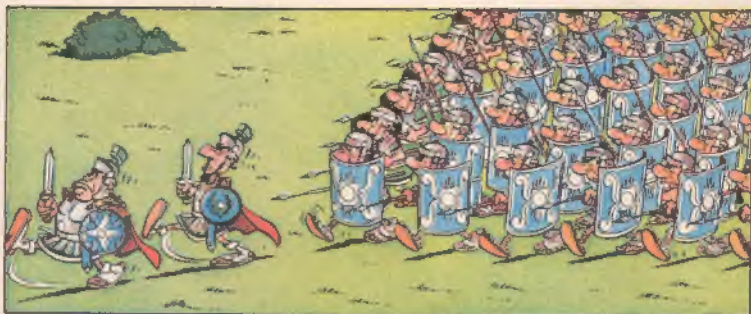
**I'M THE MOST BEAUTIFUL! I'M THE  
GREATEST! I'M THE CHAMPION!**

**SPLATCH!**





COMMANDED BY ITS OFFICERS, THE ROMAN LEGION BEGINS TO CARRY OUT ITS IMPRESSIVE MANOEUVRES



MISAWHILE, THE GAULS ARE WAITING...

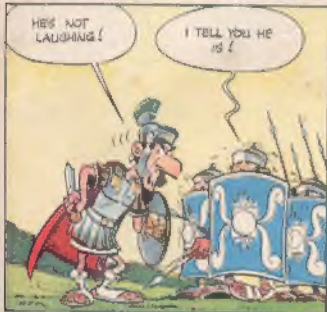


SUDDENLY...



HE'S NOT LAUGHING!

I TELL YOU HE IS!



**I'LL SHOW YOU WHETHER HE'S LAUGHING!**

